Telephone facilities in Post Offices of A.P.

3006. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the post offices including those located in far off rural and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh are having telephones;

(b) if not, the details of the post offices in the State where this facility is yet to be provided; and

(c) by when all the post offices in the State would be provided with Telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONSAND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of edible oil

3007. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have to shell out extra $ 450 million to import more edible oil this year to compensate the shortfall in oil seeds production;

(b) if so, whether Government had to spend $ 2,500 million on import of edible oil between October, 2001 and September, 2002 against usual annual import bill of $ 2,000 million;

(c) if so, the reasons for the shortfall in edible oil production; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the production of edible oil in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some of the reasons for the shortfall in edible oils are:—